

## 2026 Wisconsin NBHA State Championship Rules

All NBHA rules will apply as set forth in the rulebook if not addressed below.

**\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE REVIEW YOUR ENTRY closely before checking out. Did you buy a stall and camping? Did you enter the correct classes? List your 3 shows? Upload your coggins? \*\*\*\*\***

**ALL QUESTIONS MUST GO TO WINBHA@WINBHA.COM (Please do not text or message show staff)**

See WI NBHA website for details and rules <https://www.winbha.com/2026-state-championship.html>

See Facebook page for announcements leading up to the show

### Qualifications

- Must be a current member in good standing at the time of the NBHA State Championship Show.
- Must have competed in three district shows in the declared competition district between the 2024 and 2025 State Championship Show.

### Sponsorships – Individual or Family

- A \$25 individual or \$40 family sponsorship/personal donation must be submitted with each entry.
- A family consists of adults and their children under age 18 and living in the same household.
- All sponsorships contribute to awards and added money.

### Check In

- Gates open at 8 am on Thursday. No one is allowed on the grounds prior to the gate opening.

### Parking, Electric and Non-electric Camping

- Paid electrical and non-electrical camping will receive a permit upon arrival.
- General parking is not assigned within lots. First come first serve basis.
- No parking outside of designated lots (non-electric NE or electrical E1 and E2)
- Generators are not permitted in the electrical camping area.
- Trailers that are not used for camping will be parked in a designated area and not charged a fee.
- If you are camping in your trailer, you must pay for camping – this will be monitored.

### Stalls, Shavings and Campfires

- Stalls are pre-assigned and will be posted prior to the event.
- No swapping or selling of stalls is allowed.
- Tie outs are allowed for horses entered in the show and a fee must be paid in advance with entry. Tie Outs are not for overnight stay and pens cannot be put up at any time. Trucks and trailers must leave the property after the last class.
- Two bags of shavings will be placed in stalls with additional shavings available for purchase at the office.
- Small campfires are permitted, but you must bring your own off the ground fire pit and wood.

### No Horse and Dog Zones

- Absolutely NO horses allowed in any camping areas at any time.

- Absolutely NO dogs allowed in the arena area at any time.
- Dogs MUST be kept on a leash. Excessive barking is not tolerated. Please clean up after your dog

### **Running Order**

- The running order will be posted online the week before the event or sooner.
- The second go-round is a complete reverse order of the first go-round (including late entries).
- Horse changes can be made by contestants in Saddlebook PRIOR to August 1. Any horse changes on or after August 1st MUST be made at the office Thursday prior to noon \$10 change fee applies.
- Any contestant who competes out of turn or on the wrong horse will receive a no time.

### **Late Entries**

- Late entries for the championship show MUST be made by midnight August 5th.
- Late entries will run at the end of Go Round 1 and at the beginning of Go Round 2

### **Dress Code (NBHA rules)**

- A western cowboy hat or helmet must be worn.
- A long-sleeved western shirt with collar must be worn (full button, pullover w/full length buttons, full snaps).
- Shirt sleeves must be rolled down and buttoned or snapped. Shirt tails must be tucked in.
- Jackets or coverings may be worn, but the western attire must exist regardless of cover.
- Full western attire is required for awards and pictures.

### **Hat Fine**

- A \$10 hat fine is assessed to any rider that loses his/her hat in the arena - payable at lower office.
- Fine must be paid before the hat is returned and/or before the next run or any payout.

### **Long Go-Rounds**

- Each contestant in the Open race will be given the opportunity to ride in two long go-rounds.
- Each go-round pays money.
- Entries are paid back at 70% (with \$1000+ added) and added money is paid back at 100%.
- Contestants may be paid go-round money on more than one horse in each division.
- Failing to check in with the gate officials is subject to disqualification.

### **Short Go-Round (aka Finals) and Consolation Qualification**

- Horse and rider combinations may not change draw positions under any circumstance.
- No rider substitutions allowed.
- To be eligible to run in the consolation round (if applicable), you must have physically run in one of the qualifying rounds.
- When a Short Go/Finals is involved, members must compete on the horse they qualified on.
- The number of entries determines the number of qualifiers going to the short go-round.
- EXAMPLE: This example assumes 20 horses will qualify in each division in each go-round.

In the first go-round, the top 20 horses in each division advance to the finals.

In the second go-round, another 20 horses at the top of each division will advance to the finals, skipping over anyone who already qualified in the top 20 from the first go-round.

If less than 20 horses qualify in either go-round, any division, the unfilled spots will NOT be filled from the other go-round but rather remain unfilled.

- If a person places two horses in one division, both horses can return to the finals.
- Contestants do not need to run in both go-rounds to qualify for the finals.
- Any horse that does not qualify for the finals can run in the consolation/redemption race.
- The contestants who qualify for the finals or consolation round will be posted Saturday night.
- If choosing to scratch in the Consolation/Redemption class, please notify the office ASAP.
- The first-place winners in each division of the Consolation/Redemption class qualify for the finals.
- The finals are a clean slate format.
- The division in which a horse qualified for the finals has no bearing on the finals' placings.
- The finals draw will start with the 5th division and end with the 1st division. Each division will be a random draw within the division.
- Knocked barrels will result in no time.
- Seniors run a one go-round, 4D format.
- Youth run a one go-round, 4D format.
- A horse may run only once unless it is the only horse in the family. [See NBHA Rule Book]
- Contestants may not change horses during the finals.
- Failing to check in with the gate officials is subject to disqualification.
- Riders must be in the holding pen at the point the drag tractor turns off and must remain in the pen until entering the arena to make the run.
- Riders must enter the arena within three minutes of being called by the announcer to avoid being disqualified. Three calls will be made by the announcer.
- Once any part of the horse passes through the gate of the arena, you must maintain forward motion.
- No stopping, turning back into the holding pen or circling inside the arena is allowed once you cross the plane of the gate entrance of the arena. Failure to follow the rule results in a no-time for that ride.
- If necessary, contestants are allowed a companion horse in the holding pen.
- If necessary, contestants are allowed one handler [with enclosed toe shoes] present in the holding pen.
- No reruns are given if a horse or rider falls during the run while the clock is running.
- There will be a holding pen. Riders must enter the arena from the holding pen for their run.
- Riders must have their horse in a controlled stop before exiting the arena.

### **Pee Wee Class**

- Riders must be 8 years old or under and cannot enter any other class at State Finals.
- Helmets are required for every rider.
- Must be a family member of any current NBHA member for insurance purposes.
- No payback. Every rider will receive an award.
- Regular entry deadlines apply.

### **Warm-up Arena**

- No barrels will be set up and no pattern work allowed.
- No lunging of horses or allowing horses to roll when other horses are in the arena.

### **Target Race**

- Target race side pot is based on both long go-rounds of the OPEN class.
- Winner is based on the smallest difference in time between both go-rounds.
- Top four places are paid back at 75% - no money added.

### **Side Pots (Prime, Helmet, Average, Futurity, Derby)**

- The side pots are calculated independently using the times from the two OPEN class long rounds.
- You may enter any sidepot in one or both of the long go-rounds.
- Must meet individual sidepot qualifications
- Side pots are paid back at 75% - no money added. Depth of placings per division is dictated by the number of entries.
- Sidepots will be paid out on a 4D pay scale with the exception of Futurity and Derby paid on a 2D scale.

NBHA membership and participation in NBHA events is a privilege, not a right. Behavior which is damaging to our Association, or its membership, will not be tolerated. Any violation of Section E in the NBHA Rule Book may be subject to member disqualification from NBHA events, being denied entry to NBHA events, loss of points, or suspension from the Association. These are the decisions from the show committee which consists of District Directors and the State Directors.

Warning: Under Wisconsin law, a person, including an equine activity sponsor or an equine professional, is immune from civil liability for acts or omissions related to his or her participation in equine activities if a person participating in the equine activity is injured or killed as the result of an inherent risk of equine activities. Code of Wisconsin Statute 895.481(2)